

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Patent Application No. 09/822,839

Ab
actuated again to lower the bucket 40a. As a result, the films F are placed onto the support bases 44a, 44b of the aligning unit 14. Then, the front, rear, left, and right edges of the films F are aligned by the aligning plate 46 and the aligning plates 48a, 48b. The bucket 40a from which the films F have been placed onto the support bases 44a, 44b returns to a position for moving a next stack of films F in the supply unit 12 when the drive table 86 is displaced in a direction opposite to the feed direction.

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims are amended as follows:

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1. (Amended) An apparatus for manufacturing a plurality of sheets by stacking and feeding the sheets, comprising:

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- means for supplying stacked sheets;
 - means for turning the stacked sheets in a plane thereof;
 - means for vertically inverting the stacked sheets;
 - means for discharging the stacked sheets; and
 - means for transferring the stacked sheets to at least one of said turning means, said inverting means, and said discharge means.

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2. (Amended) An apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:
a cutting unit disposed between said supply means and said turning means, for cutting off
corners of said sheets.

3. (Amended) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said turning means and said
discharge means are combined in an unitary structure.

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please delete the present Abstract and replace it with the following:

as Sheets held by a sheet transfer mechanism are supplied from a supply unit to an aligning unit, and aligned with each other by the aligning unit. Thereafter, corners of the sheets are cut off by first and second cutting units, and then the sheets are vertically inverted by an inverting unit. Then, the sheets are turned in a given direction by a turning unit, and supplied to a discharge unit, from which the sheets are discharged.
